Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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53

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 ACDA-10 CIAE-00

INR-07 IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NRC-07 FEAE-00

DODE-00 /064 W

----- 008921

R 290946Z AUG 75 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2895 INFO USERDA GERMANTOWN

UNCLAS TOKYO 12115

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: TECH, JA

SUBJECT: COMMERCE DEPT.

- 1. MR. A. HOFFMEISTER, EXEC V.P. MITSUBISHI NUCLEAR FUELS CO., VISITED SCI COUNS AND ERDA SCIREP TO REGISTER CONCERN ABOUT DELAYS IN SHIPMENTS ZIRCALLOY FUEL CLADDING SHELLS FROM US TO JAPAN PENDING RESOLUTION OF GOJ-US ISSUES CONCERNING DEPT. COMMERCE EXPORT ADMINISTRATION BULLETIN NO. 143 DATED JULY 21, 1975, AND REQUIREMENT FOR QUOTE SPECIAL ASSURANCES UNQUOTE FROM NON-NPT COUNTRIES TO USG.
- 2. ZIRCALLOY TUBE SHELLS NOW AWAITING SHIPMENT FROM US, DESTINED FOR MITSUBISHI JAPAN PLANT, WHERE THEY ARE REDUCED IN DIAMETER AND FABRICATED INTO CLADDING FOR LWR FUEL ELEMENT. PRODUCTION SCHEDULES FOR PLANT REQUIRE THAT SHELLS BE DELIVERED BEFORE END OF OCTOBER. IN TURN, OPERATING SCHEDULES FOR LWR POWER PLANTS ARE TIED TO RECEIPT OF FUEL ON TIME FROM MITSUBISHI.
- 3. EMBASSY IS HANDICAPPED BY NOT HAVING BEEN ADVISED IN ADVANCE OF ISSUANCE OF DOC REGULATION AND LEARNED OF IT ONLY LAST WEEK FROM MOFA REPS. MOFA VIEWS ON REGULATION HAVE BEEN COMMUNICATED TO DEPT. THROUGH OTHER CHANNELS. FOR EXAMPLE, EMBOFFS ARE UNABLE TO EXPLAIN EXPLICITLY MEANING OF QUOTE UNCLASSIFIED

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SPECIAL ASSURANCES UNQUOTE AND WHETHER SUCH ASSURANCES MUST

BE MADE FOR EACH SHIPMENT OF ANY ITEM ON DOC LIST OR WHETHER A BLANKET QUOTE ASSURANCE UNQUOTE WILL BE ACCEPTED.

4. AS HAS HAPPENED BEFORE IN FIELD OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS CONTROL, USG HAS ISSUED REGULATIONS AFFECTING FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS WITHOUT INFORMING THEM THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS IN ADVANCE OR WITHOUT GIVING THEM OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMENT PRIOR TO REGULATIONS GOING INTO EFFECT. EMBASSY WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE FOR CONSIDERATION BY DEPT. THAT INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT BE SOUGHT TO AVOID THIS PRACTICE IN FUTURE, OR AT BARE MINIMUM, AFFORD EMBASSIES AFFECTED ENOUGH ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE OF IMPENDING ACTION TOGETHER WITH SUFFICIENT BACKGROUND INFO TO PERMIT EMBASSIES TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS WITH SOME DEGREE OF AUTHORITY.

5. IN INSTANT CASE, HOFFMEISTER (WHO IS NOT RESIDENT IN JAPAN)
TELLS US THAT HE HAS BEEN IN TOUCH WITH GOJ ATOMIC ENERGY
ATTACY IN WASHINGTON, WHO HAS INFORMED HIM THAT SIX TO TWELVE
MONTHS MAY BE REQUIRED BEFORE MATERIAL WILL BE RELEASED TO
MITSUBISHI. CAN DEPT. CONFIRM?
HODGSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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Subject: COMMERCE DEPT.
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To: STATE

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